

**HEAD GIMBAL ASSEMBLY INCLUDING A TRACE SUSPENSION
ASSEMBLY BACKING LAYER WITH A CONDUCTIVE LAYER FORMED
UPON A GIMBAL HAVING A LOWER OXIDATION RATE**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0047] A head gimbal assembly for a disk drive. The head gimbal assembly includes a trace suspension assembly backing layer including a gimbal. The trace suspension assembly backing layer is formed of a conductive material having a first oxidation rate. The head gimbal assembly further includes a gimbal conductive layer disposed upon the gimbal and formed of a conductive material having a second oxidation rate lower than the first oxidation rate. The head gimbal assembly further includes a slider supported by the gimbal. The head gimbal assembly further includes a conductive compound disposed between the gimbal conductive layer and the slider for electrically grounding the slider to the trace suspension assembly backing layer.